Mexican Independence Day Message
From the Consulado de México

Raul Cardenas Heraldez, Consul of Mexico

CONSulado de México

Septiembre de 1997

En las primeras horas del 16 de septiembre de 1810, México inició el largo camino en busca de la libertad, cuando el cura Miguel Hidalgo llamó a los pobladores desde el atrio del templo de Dolores, en el estado de Guanajuato.

La lucha por la independencia de México culminaría 11 años después con la firma de los Tratados de Córdoba, dando fin a tres siglos de dominación española.

En estas fechas recordamos la más trascendente de nuestras gestas históricas, el inicio de la lucha independentista con la que la nación mexicana expresaba su inquebrantable vocación libertaria y la decisión de ser dueña de su propio destino.

De 1810 a 1821 cayeron los héroes que nos dieron patria. Hidalgo, Allende, Aldama, Morelos... pero hubo otros que recogieron las banderas insurgentes hasta la culminación de la independencia.

 Esto es lo que los mexicanos recordamos con veneración en nuestras Fiestas Patrias, el sacrificio de nuestro pueblo y las vidas ofrendadas por nuestros héroes, quienes nos legaron los principios fundamentales de libertad y justicia que aún rigen y por los que debemos seguir luchando. Es la expresión rotunda de la voluntad del pueblo, de la resistencia profunda de la nación mexicana, de afirmar, preservar y fortalecer su independencia y su soberanía.

El Consulado de México en San Bernardino envía cordiales saludos a los mexicanos residentes en el área y a la comunidad de origen mexicano, los que con su esfuerzo honesto y decidido, dejan constancia de nuestros mejores valores por estas tierras.

¡VIVA MÉXICO!
California Latinos - Beware of the Hollow Promises of the GOP

By Assembly member Joe Baca (D-San Bernardino)

The attempt by the California Republican Party to win back Latinos has begun.

"Buyer beware" should be the credo of every registered Latino voter in the Inland Empire and the rest of California. The Republicans are trying to convince us that they have our best interests at heart.

The Latino population is a force to be reckoned with in California politics. We are the fastest-growing segment in the Golden State's population and the number of Latinos in public office has grown dramatically since the late 1980s. In fact, in 1988 there were 466 Latinos at all levels of government in the state. There are now more than 800 officials of Hispanic heritage serving at the state and local levels in California. I was the first Latino Speaker Pro Tempore of the California State Assembly in 1995, and last December Assembly Member Cruz Bustamante became the first Latino Speaker of the Assembly. He is joined by Assembly Member Antonio Villaraigosa, the first Latino Majority Floor Leader.

Men, women and children across the state with Spanish surnames have been an important part of California's culture for centuries and we are now beginning to witness this group's upward mobility to the middle and upper middle class.

What does the Republican Party have to offer us? Remember the voice-over for Proposition 187 about all of those brown-skinned people "who just keep coming" as the visuals depicted undocumented immigrants dashboarding across the border under cover of darkness?

This is the party that says it understands our needs and tells us that they offer us the greatest opportunities in political expression.

Governor Wilson has turned off future voters who will be the key in every election into the middle of the next century: Mexican Americans and other Latinos, according to a recent opinion piece in the Los Angeles Times.

And let's not forget who led the charge to stamp out affirmative action in our state. It's ironic that Ward Connerly, who benefited from affirmative action as a contractor, is now fighting to end outreach efforts to minorities in California. The passage of Proposition 209 was a shameful act by people like Connerly and Governor Wilson who believe that Latinos and other disadvantaged groups are magically going to be the long term future.

The Golden State is at a crossroads. It has a great opportunity to tap its intellectual, financial and cultural resources to move successfully into the 21st Century. The Latino community will be the largest single ethnic group in California. As we become more of a part of the mainstream in the state, it is time for us to seize the reins of responsibility to represent the core values of all Californians. Ten of the Legislature's 16 Latino members represent majority-white districts. We are demonstrating the ability to run successful campaigns across ethnic and racial lines and represent a wide range of constituencies. And as we play a greater role in state and local government, we must be held accountable to our constituents.

The Latino community in the United States is the youngest and fastest growing population in the nation. In California since 1990, 53 percent of the population growth has come from the Hispanic community. We are now the largest single ethnic group in California. As Speaker Cruz Bustamante said recently, "I'll let you in on a secret. Trying to have a decent place to live, good jobs and decent schools for their kids. That's the Latino agenda."

The California Republican Party has not done its homework on the Latino community. Albert Zapanta, the 55 year old executive vice president of the U.S. - Mexico Chamber of Commerce and life long Republican told the Los Angeles Times recently that, "The (Republican) party has too much of a bigot streak in it. And that's 25 years of Republican activism talking," he said referring to himself.

Even Stu Spencer, the guru of Republican political consultants, has noted that, "you've got to look at the figures and see that the future of this state is going to be determined by Mexicans."

And, in his departing speech as chairman of the Republican National Committee, Haley Barbour warned his colleagues that the GOP's inattention to women and minorities will threaten its long term future.

The Washington Post reported that Antonio Monroig, chairman of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, blamed Patrick J. Buchanan's presidential campaign for turning Hispanic voters away from the GOP long before the 1996 general election. "(Buchanan's) message was basically sending that minorities had no place in the Republican Party," Monroig said. "It was sort of the first message that Hispanics heard."

The Latino community in the United States is the youngest and fastest growing population in the nation. In California since 1990, 53 percent of the population growth has come from the Hispanic community. We are also representing the fastest growing number of small businesses in the state.

People with Spanish surnames who come to this country or are native born aren't looking for a handout. That means hard work, raising our families, and contributing to our communities.

Sheriff Gary Penrod
Salutes the Hispanic Community in their "Celebration of Mexican Independence Day"

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is continuously recruiting qualified men and women seeking a challenging career in law enforcement.

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So, when we see conservatives from the Republican Party hoisting the banner for English only testing and English only testing in our public schools; when we see our Governor being brought kicking and screaming to the understanding that legal immigrants who are elderly or disabled and who have worked hard in this country, deserve Social Security and basic social benefits; and when we see Republican legislators stand in support of a welfare reform driven by penalties rather than training and work opportunities - we as citizens of this state have to consider which party represents our interests.

The Latino community in California is a sleeping giant which really has never been asleep. We've been going through an educational process. We understand better than ever at su voto es su voz - your vote is your voice.

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Stephanie Cereceres seeks reelection to the San Bernardino Community College Board of Trustees

Stephanie J. Cereceres, currently a first-term trustee in the San Bernardino Community College Board of Trustees, has announced her candidacy in the forthcoming November 4 elections.

"During my tenure on the board of trustees, I have endeavored to foster a greater working relationship between the college and the surrounding communities. And as an educator for 19 years, I am continually striving to promote a dream and the reality of higher education to elementary, middle and high school students."

Cereceres educational credentials include an MA at Azusa Pacific University, BA at Cal-State, San Bernardino and an AA at San Bernardino Valley College. Additional credentials include Administrative Services and Secondary Single Subject-Social Studies-Life.

Currently a principal at Shandin Hills Middle School, Cereceres has served as principal at Martin Luther King Middle School, vice-principal, dean and teacher at Kolb Middle School, Rialto, and has taught at San Bernardino High School and Aquinas High School.

Beverly Powell Announces Candidacy to Board of SBCCD

Beverly Powell recently announced her decision to run for the Board of Trustees of the San Bernardino Community College District at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Will Roberts.

"After 24 years of exemplary service, Lois Carson is retiring from the Board of Trustees. Ms. Carson has endorsed my candidacy and I want to continue the legacy," stated Powell. "My combined work experience as an educator, congressional assistant, and corporate representative qualify me for the position. Running for this office is an extension of my community involvement and public service."

Beverly Powell grew up and received her formal education in the San Bernardino area. She graduated from San Bernardino Valley College. She earned her bachelor's Degree and Teaching Credential from the University of California, Riverside.

She taught for six years at Eisenhower High School in Rialto. For the last five years she was a congressional assistant to Congressman George Brown of the 42nd District. She now is a Region Manager for Southern California Edison.

Beverly and her spouse Michael, who have been married for 17 years, reside in San Bernardino. They have two sons, Tristan, 15 and Kevin, 10.

Stephanie Cereceres, Incumbent Candidate SBCCD, Trustee

Beverly Powell, Candidate SBCCD Trustee

Cereceres’ membership includes 13 national, state and local professional education associations, including the San Bernardino School Managers Association, California Association of Directors of Activities, National and California League of Middle Schools, among others. She has also served on numerous local educational task forces and advisory committees. She is actively involved with the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino.

"In addition to supporting college administrators and staff in their endeavor to expand in various academic and vocational programs on both campuses, the community college board is challenged with meeting the educational needs of parents as a result of welfare reform. Providing greater community access to campus facilities and programs, having a safe and secure campus and rebuilding future campus facilities is vital to the communities that we serve."

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Will Edison Change in a Deregulated Market
Part III - By Graciano Gomez, Publisher, I.E. Hispanic News

Will Edison Change in a Deregulated Market?
Much will change come Jan. 1, 1998, when California enters the brave new world of a deregulated electric utility industry, but much will also remain the same for Southern California Edison.

"It's true that for the first time customers will be allowed to choose among several providers for electric generation and other services," said Ray Gonzalez, public affairs region manager for Edison. "But no matter who a customer buys his or her power from, Edison will still be responsible for keeping the lights on."

Edison will continue to ensure the reliability of its portion of the state-wide power transmission grid, Gonzalez said. Control - but not ownership - of the transmission, or bulk power, grid will be in the hands of an Independent System Operator, which will control transfers of electricity from generation companies to distribution companies or utilities.

"We'll also continue to ensure the reliability of the local distribution system that delivers electricity to homes, offices, schools, factories - nearly anywhere within Edison's 50,000 square mile region," Gonzalez said. "We'll continue to be responsible for service connections and disconnects and for quick response to reports of outages and service interruptions."

"We'll be the default service provider for customers who want to bypass the hassles of the new open marketplace altogether."

Though Edison will be divesting itself of several power plants in Southern California to further ensure competition in power generation in the region, the utility will continue to own and operate plants elsewhere.

Instead of selling electricity directly to customers, beginning Jan. 1, 1998, Edison will sell its electricity into a newly created Power Exchange (PX), a "spot" price where electricity is bought and sold, much like a stock exchange.

The lowest priced electricity offered by bidders will be delivered to the PX. Any power sold by Edison to customers will come from the PX.

Gonzalez noted Edison will continue to carry out public policy at local, state and national levels, unlike the many power marketers and independent power producers expected to move into California's open electric market.

"Among other things, Edison will continue to promote economic development and job creation in Southern California and to support low income assistance programs mandated by state regulators," Gonzalez said.

Edison's primary role in the new competitive open market, Gonzalez noted, will be to facilitate the new marketplace on a nondiscriminatory basis.

"We will not enter into bilateral contracts with retail customers and we will not be free to decide which services we supply to different customer segments," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez pointed out that Edison will not be able to, unilaterally, set its prices and that, unlike power marketers and nonutility generators, it will not be free to choose which customers to serve.

"In short, Edison won't be just another competitor in the deregulated market," Gonzalez said. "We will be the facilitator of the new market, with unique constraints and unique responsibilities."

In 1996-97, about forty high school seniors from the Inland Empire were offered college scholarships and an opportunity to become an officer in the United States Air Force

Qualifications:
• Must be U.S. citizen
• Have > 2.5 GPA from a 4.0 scale
• Be in the top 40% of class ranking
• SAT Score => 1100 or ACT score => 24
• Math => 520 or math score => 21
• Verbal => 530 or English score => 21
• Meet Air Force Scholarship Program Requirements
• Meet Air Force Commissioning Requirements

For information call: Your local Air Force Scholarship Representatives, Captain Andreport at (909) 880-5443 or Captain Betz at (619) 594-1121 or Lieutenant Lara at (909) 880-5449

This article is Part III of a four part series on Electric Power Deregulation in the State of California. The articles are written by Graciano Gomez, Publisher, Inland Empire Hispanic News

Topic Next Issue: Questions Arising from Electric Deregulation

OPEN HOUSE TO THE PUBLIC
Saturday, September 20, 1997, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come celebrate with us and learn about our beautiful campus. Prizes, food, demonstrations, tennis clinic, health checks, college informational booths, music and fun. Also, a 1997 hole-in-one contest at the college's golf course.

Craflon Hills College

11711 Sand Canyon Rd., Yucaipa
For Information, Call 389-3433

College Scholarship Program

In 1996-97, about forty high school seniors from the Inland Empire were offered college scholarships and an opportunity to become an officer in the United States Air Force

ATTENTION:
CLASS OF 1998 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND PARENTS

Need money for college? Check out the Air Force ROTC College Scholarship Program

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The lowest priced electricity offered
I extend my "Best Wishes" to all as we begin the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

"I urge everyone to exercise your responsibility and duty to register and to vote in the coming election."

Judith Valles
Candidate for Mayor
City of San Bernardino

Paid for and authorized by Campaign to Elect Judith Valles, Mayor
Inland Empire Hispanic News

San Bernardino City Schools' CaSA honored with Presidential Resolution

Congressman George Brown, D-42nd Congressional District, pictured left, is presenting a presidential resolution to Catherine Meister, president of the Community and School Alliance (CaSA) at a San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce mixer sponsored by Harris' Department Store, San Bernardino. CaSA and the San Bernardino School District were first in the nation to complete the Readers First Program with first to third grade level students. Third person in photo not identified.

Arnold Gallardo appointed Pacific Affairs Director for Pacific Bell

Pacific Bell has announced the appointment of Arnold Gallardo as Director of Public Affairs for the cities of San Bernardino, Fontana, Rialto, Victor Valley, Barstow and Needles.

Gallardo is responsible for corporate-related public policy issues with federal, state and local agencies. His added responsibilities will involve working with regional nonprofit agencies to provide assistance in educational and community related project development.

Gallardo began his career in 1979 as a service customer representative with Pacific Bell for both the general and ethnic markets. In addition to assignments in Los Angeles, he has worked in Pasadena, San Jose, Sacramento and Riverside.

Born in El Paso, Texas, the family moved to California in 1958. Graduating from Roosevelt High School, Los Angeles, he attended Cal-State, Long Beach, majoring in Psychology.

Gallardo has four children, Livia 23, Joseph 18, Janelle 14 and Amanda 10. His hobbies are golf, and "anything that I can do with my children."

We Proudly Celebrate
16 de septiembre
Mexican Independence Day

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"Viva La Independencia"

Join David Oberhelman
Candidate for Mayor of San Bernardino
in celebration of
Mexican Independence Day and
Our Headquarters Grand Opening

September 16, 1997, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
at his Campaign Headquarters
located at 361 North "E" Street (Court & "E")

Paid for by Committee to Elect David Oberhelman, Mayor - ID # 970042 (909) 886-5075
Feliz Día de la Independencia a la comunidad mexicana.
at Epigmenio. The grocer was towards the town of Querétaro. There detachment of royalist soldiers rode out and ranches that were scattered throughout the country side lay quiet while the inhabitants rested in peace oblivious to what was about to happen.

A Querétaro grocer named Epigmenio González stirred from a restless sleep as dogs outside would not stop barking. An Indian servant boy quickly tried to wake González, but the young lieutenant gave up and his adjoining mercado shutting down towards hidden cellar below the rectory. He took an axe and broke through the wooden planks. Underneath the wooden debris lay another cache of muskets and ammunition. After the weapons were passed around, Father Hidalgo’s new “army” was on the march or rather on the rampage. The insurgent army, now turned into a vengeful mob, slaughtered and pillaged nearby towns such as San Miguel, Celaya, and finally the state capital of Guanajuato.

At the Granajaro granary, called the Alhóndiga, the royalist and other survivors of the pillage stood their final ground until the insurgent army made their way into the fortified granary and slaughtered every last survivor. Hidalgo left part of his army at the Alhóndiga and went off to Morelia to claim more victories. Eventually, the priest would meet his defeat and be captured. But of course, the Spaniards would retaliate severely. By then most of Father Hidalgo’s occupying army had already fled or deserted leaving only innocent townspople of Guanajuato.

A royalist officer, called the Count DeLaCadena, nevertheless, he was given an order to prepare for a mass execution. As the church bell tolled the “death knell,” a humble Franciscan friar came out to offer up his own “grito” of mercy. These people have committed no crime,” the friar said. “Suspend the order for the execution. I beg you in the name of the Lord who will on the last day ask for an account of the innocent blood that will be spilled here.” The count, heed ing to the words of Padre Belaunzaran, suspended the order of executions.

This account of the early uprisings for Mexican Independence is, of course, familiar to every Mexican person dead or alive. At first with Hidalgo’s unexpected Grito de Dolores, the wars for independence began to have social implications that some promise of justice and improved economic conditions for the Indians and mestizo peasants, but Spanish creoles-Spanish born in the New World were at first reluctant to support such a revolution. Eventually, Hidalgo and his other rebels were captured and executed, burring with their headless corpus any hope of uplifting the peasant’s social conditions. In order to make the move towards independence more attractive to the Creoles and other conservation factions, a royalist officer called Agustín de Iturbide, who first fought to defeat the insurgents, decided to turn the table and join the other side. His price for treason was the first crown of Mexico.

What actually occurred as a result of the wars for Independence was the replacement of one bad government for another. Iturbide’s reign, fortunately, only lasted a year. The promises of the Grito de Dolores has been forgotten as Creoles replaced Spanish “Gachupines” in state offices and other responsibilities of power.

Although Father Hidalgo set the path for independence on September 16, 1810, eleven years later the conservative, wealthy forces of the new nation put a crown on Iturbide’s head making him the Emperor Agustín I. Meanwhile, the rotting decapitated heads of Allende, Aldama, and Father Hidalgo swung in cages from poles outside the ruined remains of the Alhóndiga in Guanajuato whose motto was to become “dónde la vida vale nada” (where life has no value). Another chapter in Mexico’s history was about to be written.
Old Glory
again waves from
Colton’s Mt. Slover
Abril family participates
for second time

By Ana Nayelli Gonzalez
Standing 500 feet above the earth it sways with the wind blowing it in all directions. The American Flag - Old Glory - was lifted firmly in position, standing erect and proud, with blood red stripes, pure white lines and extravagantly bright stars flying in the air.

Thus, the Flag was, again, raised on Mt. Slover early this year with a rededication ceremony attended by national, state and local dignitaries and school officials.

This rededication ceremony was reminiscent to long time Colton resident Ray Abril, Sr., when he, as an eight year old youngster, witnessed the raising of the 30 foot by 20 foot American Flag on July 4, 1917, on Mt. Slover, the same year that the United States joined the Allies in World War I. Mt. Slover was one of three locations in the United States granted the right to fly the flag at night with a requirement that it be illuminated after dark.

The flag was raised by Thomas J. Fleming, manager of the California Portland Cement Company as a patriotic gesture. However, the brother-in-law of Abril, Sr. was responsible for the flag and was kept in his home the night before the ceremony. Abril Sr. was able to get a first-hand look at the flag.

"I can remember the beauty of the flag in the ceremony. There were many, many people who came from all over that night to see the raising of the flag," he said.

However, in 1941 the flag was removed from the top of Mt. Slover because the illumination could have endangered the safety of the nation during World War II, which was called a "blackout". The flag was stored at the Fleming Ranch.

Seventy-nine years later, the identical flag raising ceremony at Mt. Slover was witnessed by Ray Abril, Jr., Chairperson of the Colton School District.

"It’s a great honor for both of us," said Abril, Jr. "It’s more self rewarding than anything else. It’s a wonderful feeling to know that my dad and I participated in the same thing. We can talk about it because we both experienced it."

Abrid Sr. shares similar feelings. "I’m proud of my boy. I was in the first ceremony and he was there the second time around. I believe the flag is a true symbol of our country. The more we see it, the more we appreciate it."

And, undoubtedly, the Abrils have something to talk about for a very long time.
Alex E. Contreras, former Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Grossmont College in El Cajon, and Dr. Bill Orr, a long-time math instructor at Crafton Hills College (CHC), are the newest members of CHC’s administrative team.

Contreras is CHC Vice President of Student Services; and Orr is CHC Vice President of Administrative Services. As Vice President of Administrative Services, Contreras’ job includes coordinating the Admissions and Records Office, Counseling Office, Career Center, Disabled Student Programs and Services, Equal Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), Financial Aid Office, Health and Wellness Center, and the Transfer Center.

Contreras said, “Our faculty is very dedicated to serving the academic needs of our communities, in general, and our students, in particular. As Vice President of Administrative Services, Dr. Orr is responsible for overseeing the college budget and supervising the Book Store, Business Office, Campus Police Department, Maintenance, Grounds, Food Services, and the Custodial Office.”

“I am excited about working with the students and faculty on planning the future for this campus,” Orr said. “I am particularly interested in building financial partnerships between the college and industry.”

Noted that a new Child Development Center has opened, a new carillon bell system installed, purchased new lights for the theatre complex, and installed new computers in a computer lab.

Continued on page 11.
Crafton Hills College 25th Anniversary Festival

CHC's 25th Anniversary — Crafton Hills College cordially invites the public to its 25th Anniversary Festival on Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The festival will include prizes, food, demonstrations, a tennis clinic hosted by tennis pros, health checks, college informational booths, music, and career information. Also, a 1997 Buick Regal furnished by Redlands Hatfield Buick will be first prize for a hole-in-one contest at the college's beautiful golf course. During its 25 years of service to the area, more than 70,000 people have utilized CHC as a source of college education and employee training.

Two Positions Filled at CHC - From P. 10

CHC for 19 years and was chair of the college's Physical Science and Mathematics Department for 16 years. He served as president of the CHC Academic Senate for two years, and he was selected by the faculty as the 1988 Professor of the Year. Orr was also chair of CHC's High Technology Committee, responsible for overseeing the purchase and installation of more than 150 new Pentium computers at the college. He received his Ph.D. in education from Nova University and his M.S. in mathematics from the University of Oregon.

The entire office staff extends "lo mejor para todos."

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Pictured with Mr. Skipper from left to right are Joanne Long, Probate Paralegal; Mary B. Jimenez Gonzalez, Office Manager; Elizabeth Wilkie, Office Secretary

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We invite you to work with us. Become an ROP Advisory Committee Member Resource or Training Site Facility. The rewards are gratifying and the results are a "win win" for everyone involved.

For Information, call: (909) 793-8115
Hispanic Heritage Month Activities

- Saturday, September 13- Harris, San Bernardino/Inland Empire Hispanic News presents Hispanic Women’s Career Seminar, at Harris, San Bernardino, 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Speakers: Judy Valles, Eloise Reyes and Dr. Lily Rivera. Workshops by June Durr, Harris Marketing Director, Dorothea Baca Baca, The Mane Event and Lorraine Lopez, Image Salon. Tickets-$25 per person, call at (909) 381-6259, (909) 886-7764, (909) 381-5388, (909) 864-1649 or (909) 882-3094.

- Saturday, September 13-Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino Installation at Arrowhead Country Club, 3433 N. Parkside Dr., San Bernardino, from 6 to 10 PM. Tickets-$30 per person. RSVP-Marielena Garcia at (909) 864-1257.

- Sunday, September 14th-Ontario Hispanic Chamber of Commerce-Fiestas Patrias and Health Fair at Chaffey High School, 1600 N. Arrowhead Av. San Bernardino, CA 92405, or call at (909) 370-6168, ext. 1 or 370-6158.

- Tuesday, September 16-Casa Blanca Youth Services Program/Ismael Villegas Center 7240 Marguerita, Riverside, 16th of September celebration, 4 to 7 PM, guest speakers Sister Rosa Martha Zarate and Dr. Clarence Romero, entertainment by DJ YakkO, Mi Tierra Ballet Folklorico and Trio Jalapa. Information-(909) 688-3043.

- Wednesday, September 17-Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting, Nena’s Restaurant, 642 N. “D” St., San Bernardino, at 12:00 PM. Speaker: Dr. Mafio Molina, president, Molina Medical Centers, “Choosing the Proper Health Plan For Your Business.” RSVP-(909) 888-2188 or e-mail: iehcc@aol.com

- Thursday, September 18th-Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Redlands Federal Bank Mixer at Redlands Federal Bank (Colton branch) 615 N. La Cadena, Colton, (corner of La Cadena & 9th), from 6:30 to 8:30. RSVP-(909) 888-2188 or e-mail: iehcc@aol.com

- September 20th-St. Bernardine’s Church 135th Anniversary Dance, Knights of Columbus Hall, 2392 N. Western Ave., San Bernardino, from 8 to 2 AM. Music by the Latin Society. Donations-$10 or $12 at door. Ticket purchase-Freddie Roybal at (909) 885-8132 or St. Bernardine’s at (909) 884-0104.


- Wednesday, September 24-Inland Empire Hispanic Commerce of Commerce breakfast meeting at Redlands Federal Bank, 615 N. La Cadena Dr., Colton at 7:30 AM. Speaker: Lydia Orrantia & Richard Green II, “On Business Loans and Investments”. RSVP- (909) 888-21188 or E-mail: iehcc@ol.com

- Saturday, September 27-Colton Neighborhood Services Department-Ballet Folklorico Festival, from I to 7 PM at Colton Community Center, 670 Colton Ave., Colton. Folklorico groups invited to participate. For information call at (909) 370-6168, ext. 1 or 370-6158.

- October 4th-Ramona/Alessandro Scholarship Dinner/Dance, Orange Show Cafeteria, San Bernardino, from 5 to 12 AM. Music by Pure Pleasure. Tickets: $30 per person. Tickets-All State Insurance, 1600 N. Arrowhead Av. San Bernardino, CA 92405, or call at (909) 881-3494.

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The Day-Care Dilemma

By James Collins

The 4th and final article in a series "Brain Development in the Child". Reprinted with permission from Time, Inc.

Environment matters, for anyone wondering how the latest brain research applies to the care of infants and toddlers, that is the crucial finding. Yes, the way the brain develops is a matter of genetics and nutrition and whether a mother to be drinks or smokes, but it also depends on the stimuli, as the scientists call them, that a baby receives. It depends on what the baby sees, hears, feels, tastes and on the emotions he or she repeatedly experiences. But if environment matters, we are faced with a question: at a time when children suffer from perhaps the gravest social problems of any group in the U.S., how do we ensure that they grow up in the best environment possible?

In many ways, children are better off today then they were in previous decades. They are healthier, their families have a higher income, the level of their mother's education (the most important determinant of the child's intelligence) has risen. But one out of every ten children three years old and younger lives in "extreme poverty" - at or below 60% of the federal poverty level. And the well being of many others is threatened by such social changes, as the rise of single parent households, the uneven quality of day care, the decline of communities and some would argue, the push to reform the welfare system.

Social policy cannot ameliorate all these conditions. A change in attitude toward parenting and marriage would do children far more good than any government program. Over the past few years, however, there has been a movement in Washington and the state capitals to address the problems of children, from newborn to the age of three. Now neuroscientists, by confirming much of what social scientists have already surmised about early development are giving that movement added momentum.

The recent concern about infants and toddlers has been inspired in part by Starting Points, a landmark report published by the Carnegie Corporation in 1994, which identified a "quiet crisis" of areas - health care, taxes, the economy, crime - threatens children. But the initiative that will have the most particular and powerful effect on them is welfare reform. If, as some predict, the income of poor mothers are drastically reduced as a result of the new system, children will be harmed. But let's assume that the reforms work as intended and mothers get jobs that pay them more than paupers' wages. What effect may the changes have on childhood development?

There is some evidence that children benefit if their mothers stay home with them until they are one year old, and the welfare law allows states to exempt new mothers from work requirements for the year. But so far, states do not seem to be taking advantage of the provision. For example, in Wisconsin, which is a leader in welfare reform, mothers must start looking for work when their baby is 12 weeks old. Those who favor these reforms say a mother who has a job will be a prouder and more responsible parent, and some studies suggest that children do benefit if their mother receives earned income rather than a government check for the same amount.

If mothers are out working, however, the quality of child care provided by others will largely determine how well the children fare under the states' new plans. To care of their children, many mothers will rely on relatives and friends, some of whom will be loving and attentive and some of whom will not. Also, the strain on the day care system is a matter of grave concern to child development and child care experts. A recent study found that 40% of day care centers for infants and toddlers gave less than the minimal standard of care. Problems ranged from safety hazards to unresponsive care givers to a lack of toys. If a care giver spoons food from one bowl into the mouths of half a dozen toddlers lined up in high chairs, as has been known to happen, not only is the health of the children at risk but they are surely not receiving the kind of attention that promotes healthy brain development.

"If you push more children into the... Continued on page 14"
Day Care Dilemma - from page 13

system through welfare reform," says Ellen Galinsky, a co-president of the Families and Work Institute, "and you are saying to these families, 'Just get any child care you can and can pay for', there's a real danger."

The challenge for the states is to regulate and subsidize child care in such a way as to increase the likelihood of good outcomes for children. This is true regardless of welfare reform, of course. Bad day care can harm the development of any child. Research has shown that children benefit when care givers are trained and the ratio of staff to children is high. Several states license centers accordingly, requiring a minimum amount of training and setting ratios for different age groups. Welfare mothers themselves are not necessarily the best care givers, and it is possible that in some instances welfare reform will actually improve the care of children. But high quality care is expensive, and states do not have adequate budgets to subsidize it.

The Federal Government and the states do have programs specifically aimed at helping the development of infants and toddlers, although as social policy they are nowhere near as sweeping as an overhaul of welfare. The most notable federal initiative is Early Head Start, which was created in 1994 when Congress reauthorized funding for Head Start, the 32 year old program that brings three, four, and five year olds into classroom settings in part to prepare them for school. Mary Jo Bane was working at the time at the Department of Health and Human Services (she quit over welfare reform), and she led a task force charged with finding ways to improve Head Start. Child-development experts, she says, pointed the group toward the importance of interventions earlier than age four.

In 1996, the budget for Early Head Start was $146 million, and HHS awarded grants to 143 sites. The money is used to provide a variety of services to poor families with children under the age of four and to poor pregnant women. How the funds are spent is determined to some extent by the communities that receive them. Some communities are experimenting with family interventions that include grandparents; others are new borns or to provide extra help to teen parents with a history of drug abuse.

**CELEBRATE MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**
**SEPTEMBER 16, 1997**

I salute the Latino Communities for their many contributions to the Inland Empire, and I take great pride in celebrating this joyous Mexican Independence Day

SALUDOS Y GRAN EXITO!

**Joe Baca**

62nd Assembly District

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**Lawsuit Filed to Preserve Prenatal Care Benefits**

Seeking to protect undocumented women's right to prenatal care in California, MALDEF, together with co-counsel, filed a complaint in the United States District Court in San Francisco challenging the state's plans to deny these services under the federal welfare reform law. The lawsuit, entitled *Clementine Doe v. Wilson*, attempts to preserve the rights to these benefits granted under existing 1988 state law. The complaint was filed on June 27, 1997, against the United States Government, California Governor Pete Wilson, the State Department of Health Services, and department director Kimberley Belshe.

"Preserving these benefits will save the lives of pregnant women and their babies, prevent disabilities and disease, and save the State of California a great deal of money by averting expensive treatments of citizen children born with illness or injury that could have been prevented through prenatal care," says Silvia Arrieta, MALDEF staff attorney. Acting in response to the federal welfare reform act, the State of California had intended to begin denying such benefits to undocumented women in July.

Governor Wilson has long sought to end these benefits despite the 1988 state law requiring that they be provided to undocumented women. Wilson's attempt to do so the day after the passage of Proposition 187 in 1994 was blocked by a lawsuit by MALDEF and others challenging the anti-immigrant initiative. He then tried to end these benefits in late 1996 soon after the welfare reform act was passed. That move was halted by a state court lawsuit, alleging defects in the state's regulatory process. Though the state court action was critical in halting Wilson's efforts, it has only temporarily delayed the ultimate implementation of the proposed cut off. MALDEF's recent action is only challenge that seeks to strike down the portion of the federal welfare reform act that requires the state to end these benefits.

While permitting state governments to formulate their own plans for public assistance, the federal welfare reform act requires that any provision of benefits to the undocumented must appear in a new state law passed after 1996. The lawsuit filed by MALDEF argues that this requirement to re-enact existing state law violates the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution by unnecessarily interfering in the state lawmaking structure.

While the federal government has the power to regulate immigration, it may not regulate the state legislative process. The lawmaking system is central to a state's existence as a separate entity from the federal government; congress has no business telling California or any state when and how it must enact laws," says Thomas A. Saenz, MALDEF Los Angeles Regional Counsel.

MALDEF was joined in the suit by attorneys from the California Medical Association, the National Immigration Law Center, Public Advocates, the Public Interest Law Project, and the Law Offices of Richard Fajardo. Plaintiffs include pregnant women who would be denied prenatal care under the challenged law, as well as health care providers, such as the California Medical Association, the California Primary Care Association, and the Community Health Foundation of East Los Angeles.

**Senator and Mrs. Ruben S. Ayala wish to salute the Hispanic Community as we celebrate "Mexican Independence Day"**

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**Felicitaciones En este dia de la Independencia Mexicana**

Congressman George E. Brown, Jr.

42nd District

Paid and authorized by the Friends of George Brown Committee, M.S. Tomiinson. Treasurer
Inland Empire Hispanic News

Maureen J. Martinez Retires

Maureen J. Martinez, Director of the Job Training Partnership Act Program for Riverside County, has retired after eight years as head of the training and employment agency.

The retirement of Martinez was a surprise to many of her friends and agency professionals, who are aware of her high professional standing and her knowledge of education, training, and job placement programs.

Martinez began her career in 1985 at the Indio office of the JPTA. Within a short period of time, she was promoted as manager of the Indio division for JPTA programs in the eastern part of Riverside County.

That portion of the county is, to a certain extent, rural and with a large number of limited-English speaking farm workers. The need for English language development and instructional programs was, and is critical, for enrollment in available training programs.

Martinez was able to design a training component for adults to learn occupational English. The component, the Indio Literacy Lab, was very successful and enabled many adults to benefit with other JPTA programs in the area.

The program’s graduates were so successful that many were able to assume jobs directly with local employers, according to a resolution by the County of Riverside Board of Supervisors.

“Observing the effort made by many of the enrollees recalls the saying, “Si Se Puede,” one of Martinez' favorite sayings.

The Board’s resolution further stated that Martinez was very sensitive and her deep spirituality and respect for the human struggle induced her to develop the mechanism to enhance the workers struggle for improvement in their respective living environment.

Martinez was appointed to the agency’s directorship in 1993. Overcoming challenges from intra-agency and public training agencies, Martinez conceptualized programs like One Stop Centers, Culinary Arts Academy (a room was dedicated in her honor), the first culinary apprenticeship programs in California and many other programs during her tenure.

Many professionals in the training and employment area have stated that Martinez left a philosophy of commitment to excellence in public training and employment programming.

Furthermore, they stated, her departure ends an era of a leader who passionately cares for the welfare and needs of people less fortunate than ourselves.

Maureen Martinez is a unique person.

Adult School Offers Many Classes

Adult School offers custodial, parenting and computer classes. Whether you are thinking of changing careers, upgrading your job skills, or finding ways to become a better parent, the San Bernardino Adult School has a good class for you. Right now there are immediate openings in the following classes: Custodial Training; Network Control Operator; Excel; Word; Typing/Keyboarding; Parenting classes; and Macintosh-related classes. - Claris Works, Power Point, PageMaker, Hyperstudio.